

THE HOME AND ITS MISTRESS

For High-Heeled Shoes.

High heels on shoes and slippers lost their favor with the women simply because they found they could not wear them without spraining or injuring the ankle. Shoemakers know that the high-heeled shoe is much preferred to the low heel—in fact, the higher the heel the more it is liked. A Virginia woman claims that any high-heeled shoe or slipper, especially, can be made perfectly safe for the wearer by the introduction of a small supporting plate placed inside the shoe, close to the heel. This plate is of metal and curved to conform to the heel of the foot of the wearer. It is placed in the shoe in combination with the sole, the plate lying under the heel and extending upward at each side, ending in a T, which engages the side of the foot immediately below the ankle.



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Women True to Themselves.

Mr. John M. Coulter, head of the department of botany of the Chicago University, who with his wife and children was on the ill-fated Republic, says that the heroic conduct of the women was something that can never be forgotten. When the order came to put on life preservers the women put them on as coolly as if they were shirt waists. There was no fainting, no panic and they even joked among themselves to conceal any fear they might have as they adjusted the unusual preservers. They conducted themselves, he says, in a manner to make one forever proud of American womanhood. It gave one an understanding of the nobility of woman's nature, he declared, that does not present itself often in an ordinary life-time.

Handsome Afternoon Costume.



Chiffon broadcloth, in a delightful shade of brown, was used for a costume suitable for informal luncheons, matinees, etc., and from which our sketch was made. It employs the popular tunic effect in front with long trained skirt. The short-waisted bodice is elaborately trimmed with navy Russian lace, and the entire tight long sleeves are made from all-over lace, matching in design that used on the bodice. The finish at hand is a band of sable. A white-faced brown satin hat and sable muff complete the costume.

A Candy Pull.

A nice party to have is a candy pull. When inviting the guests ask each to bring an apron. Boil the candy for an hour. It had better be put on before the guests come. While waiting for the candy to cook a lively game of cards may be played, such as "pili" or "old maid." When the candy is all pulled put it on a marble slab to harden. Refreshments may now be served. After this a game or two of charades may be played.

Purpose of Exercise.

Exercise should be taken to increase the circulation and tissue change; to stimulate the elimination of waste products; to develop the muscles; to promote healthy action of the digestive organs, and to clear the brain and head, thus fitting us to do more work and better work than we would otherwise be able to perform.

Put Thought into Meals.

One mother of growing sons learned almost too late the folly of so catering to an individual peculiarity. The husband and father liked neither soups, dessert, fish nor salad, and the family meals consisted of a dreary round of meat, coffee and a vegetable. Then the mother found that her boys, dissatis-

fed with such plain fare, were seeking a more varied menu in restaurants and gay hotels, with none too desirable companions.

It pays every housekeeper, if only to spare herself family grumbling, to put more thought than she does into ordering the meals. If systematized it takes little time, even in a busy life, to provide more varied cooking, and the trouble pays from an ethical as well as health standpoint.



Shot velvets in wonderful two-toned effects are high in favor.

Wide tulle strings finish the hat designed for the picturesque girl.

Corded silks are making up waists for street coat and skirt suits.

Jet butterfly buckles are the latest and daintiest things for slippers.

With the black tailored costumes gold embroidery is in great favor.

The popularity of suede is waning and richer colors are in evidence.

Embroidery in heavy worsted or silk is employed on many new cloth gowns.

The butter bowl shape hat is still shown and threatens to stay another year.

Women, young and old, are wearing jet jewelry with gowns black and white.

Nowadays nearly all women wear jackets and among the prettiest is the grandfather frill.

Open-meshed stockings are now little favored, flit net in lisle and silk being the rage.

Royal blue, golden brown, mulberry and maize are fashionable colors in high-class costumes.

Embroidery dots of various sizes are used in dainty ties. The dots may be white or a color.

Nearly all of the hats are made without bandeau, and must be worn with the flat hair dressing.

Thin wools, which make up into charming house gowns, are found in all the fashionable shades and tones.

Bracelets are being worn again in quantities and this year they need not match in design, size or material.

There is nothing newer in veils than the directoire veil and ruff combined. The veil is drawn into a band of ribbon around the throat or ends in a thick ruff made of the veiling.

The breakfast cap is a dainty fad of fashionable women. It is of lace of the finest quality, hand embroidered, and is ornamented with a nosegay of old-fashioned flowers made of ribbons.

Costs Less to Feed Women.

In a small Philadelphia restaurant that caters to persons on economy bent the bill of fare is headed by this notice: "Regular dinner—Men, 25 cents; women, 15 cents." "How is this?" asked a chance customer belonging to the sex most heavily taxed. "You charge us fellows 10 cents more than you do the women. What have we done that we should be so discriminated against?" "You eat more," was the plain rejoinder. "It doesn't cost nearly so much to feed women as men, but we are the first concern in this part of town that has been brave enough to say so in plain print. Many foreign restaurants have recognized that fact, and have regulated their charges accordingly."

Sardou's Opinion of Women.

"I have the highest opinion of the fair sex. I consider women superior to men in almost everything; they possess the intuitive faculty to an extraordinary degree, and may almost always be trusted to do the right thing in the right place. They are full of noble instincts, and, though heavily handicapped by fate, come well out of every ordeal. You have but to turn to history to realize the truth of what I say."—The Strand Magazine.

To Clean Shields.

Many think it is impossible to wash dress shields in other than cold water. They should first be dampened with cold water and covered with white soap rubbed into the covering. Put them into a basin and pour very warm water over them and let them stand until the water begins to cool, then scrub with a stiff brush. Rinse in cold water and let them gradually dry away from artificial heat. Do not attempt to press them.

Dry Scalp Causes Gray Hair.

Nothing will so quickly cause the hair to turn gray as an absence of nourishing oils, and it is for this reason that tonics containing such ingredients are invaluable. When there is a decided tendency to whiteness a formula that has been found useful, if massaged nightly into the head, is one dram each of terebene, borax and sulphur and six ounces of lavender water.

Homemade Clothes Hanger.

Excellent shirt waist and coat hangers can be made by cutting small barrel hoops in two. Half-barrel hoops are the best. Wrap the hoop with cambric and fasten in the center of same a loop or wire to hang it up with. The advantage of these over the wire ones is that they do not crease the garments.

Protect the Finger.

Every woman who sews or embroiders objects to the roughened first finger of the left hand, which seems impossible not to prick. Not only is the roughened edge unsightly, but it catches on the work, especially when doing silk embroidery, and is almost impossible to keep clean. There is a new protector for this finger that seems to protect without getting in the way of the sewer. It is made in a specially prepared glass that does not blunt the needle, comes in several sizes and, best of all, is cheap enough for every sewer to own.

Reducing Flesh.

Whatever else fashion hints there is not the slightest rumor that flesh is to be stylish in the near future. Therefore women who are not thin are keeping up all kinds of methods to make them so. Live on noodles, is the cry. Consequently this diet is strictly kept by women who are willing to sacrifice anything to be thin. The latest remedy, however, is to drink camomile tea without sugar, an hour after eating. This is said to cure the most rebellious case and turn one of barrel shaped proportions into sylphlike lines.

Charming Combing Jacket.

Rather longer in the body than the usual run of such garments is this fascinating combing jacket, made from embroidered crepe de chine. There is no trimming save two silk frogs for closing purposes. China silk, challis or silk muslin with lining, would also serve for this piece of daintiness.

daily with an Irish potato. Cut off one end of the potato and rub the tumor with the pared surface. After each operation remove a slice of the potato.

If the cuticle about your nails seems tough and there is a tendency to "hang nails," rub in a little vaseline or cold cream every night before retiring. Soon you will see a marked improvement in the condition of the nails.

The worried housekeeper should go out on the veranda for a few moments, take several full breaths of fresh air, shake the stiffness from fingers, wrists, elbows and all other joints of the body, stretch, yawn, smile and laugh if possible—a good, deep, muscular laugh.

Takes Pessimistic View.

Prof. Hagerty, of the University of Ohio, said at the meeting of the Sociological Society in Washington recently that educated women did not marry as early in life as women used to, that they had fewer children and the offspring are not as strong. The State has taken care of the education of the child, the kitchen is practically the only survival of the old industrial aspect of the home, children being thus relieved of household duties. The result, along with the tendency to live in boarding houses and flats, tends to destroy the solidarity of the home without any apparent advantage.

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AGRICULTURAL



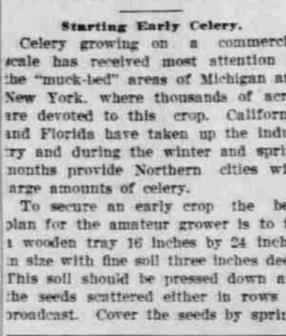
A Farmer's Enterprise.

An Iowa farmer has succeeded in opening up a big field for his enterprise by applying an old method to a new service. He has gone into the business of furnishing fresh eggs daily to a regular list of customers, after the fashion of the milkmen and bakers. This farmer is a man who raises many chickens and markets a large number of eggs. These he had been selling to dealers, who in turn sent them to cold-storage warehouses or to wholesalers. Finally they got to the consumers, usually pretty stale and much the worse for handling, through the retail grocer or huckster. When eggs were plentiful and the wholesalers were well stocked up, the farmer got little for them. When eggs were few and prices to consumers were very, very high, the farmer found that his eggs in the warehouses were still in competition with the producer. This man's egg route isn't an egg route exclusively. He sells dressed chickens and other farm produce, too, and when his egg wagon is going about the driver takes orders for other things which are raised on the farm.—Springfield Journal.

Starting Early Celery.

Celery growing on a commercial scale has received most attention in the "muck-bed" areas of Michigan and New York, where thousands of acres are devoted to this crop. California and Florida have taken up the industry and during the winter and spring months provide Northern cities with large amounts of celery.

To secure an early crop the best plan for the amateur grower is to fill a wooden tray 16 inches by 24 inches in size with fine soil three inches deep. This soil should be pressed down and the seeds scattered either in rows or broadcast. Cover the seeds by sprink-



WIRE-COVERED GATE THAT BALANCES.

are 12 in. apart, the board, and fasten a cap to the top of the frame. The gate is 16 ft. long, 12 ft. being for the gateway and 4 ft. for the weights to balance it. The frame is of 2x4's. Cover the 4-ft. end with boards and fill with enough stones to balance it when hung. Cover the gate with wire fencing and hang by a chain. Put a bolt through the lower part of the frame into the crosspiece, etc.—A. J. Fraser, in Farm and Home.

How to Grow Potatoes.

Director Woods of the Maine agricultural experiment station summarizes his suggestions as to successful potato growing as follows. What he says about thorough preparation of the soil is applicable to that to be used for any crop.

Select highly fertile land, so situated that it will suffer as little as possible from either excessive rain or from droughts.

Thoroughly prepare the soil and fertilize liberally.

Keep the crop free from weeds and the surface of the soil loose during the whole season.

Do not let anything prevent the potato field from receiving constant care. Vastly more failures in potato growing can be traced to neglect of crop than to lack of knowledge.

How Many Hens.

Have you pondered the fact that it requires very little more labor to keep a flock of 100 birds than a flock of 20? There is a hint there as to getting the proper return for your labor.

Also the expense of housing and yarding the larger flock is but little more than for the smaller.

These are the two important outgoes, aside from feed.

It follows that your profit will be greatly increased by the enlarged flock without a corresponding increase of expense.

By all means, if it will pay you at all to keep chickens, it will pay you to keep not less than seventy-five.

When and How to Prune.

It is very important that the healing process should start soon after the wound is made, otherwise the cambium will be killed back quite a distance from the exposed surface, and healing will be greatly retarded. For this reason winter pruning should be avoided, particularly in frosty weather. In the early fall or late spring the cambium is active and wounds made at this time start to heal at once, and there is little or no drying back of the cambium.

A Useful Farm Implement.

A useful but much neglected farm implement—the shaving horse.

Tremendous Cost of Prairie Dogs.

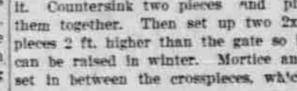
In the state of Texas alone prairie dogs eat annually enough grass to support 1,562,500 cows. Utterly useless, the little animal is a pest so dreaded that the forestry service has undertaken his extermination. Poison is killing him, wherever he now flourishes and another resource of the farmer is safeguarded.

Who would think that the prairie dog, the shy and amusing little rodent that we like to watch before the door of his burrow at the Zoo, would ever become the subject of the government intervention or endanger the success of stock raising? Yet such is the fact, says the Technical World Magazine.

Out on the national forests which Uncle Sam is guarding for the use of the public, expert hunters have gone after the prairie dog with zeal, ingenuity and poison and literally exterminated them in great numbers, because some of their choicest bottom lands have had the grazing ruined for stock by the industrious burrowing of the "dogs."

A Gate That Never Sags.

I have used this gate for many years and never spent five minutes repairing it. Countersink two pieces and pin them together. Then set up two 2x4 pieces 2 ft. higher than the gate so it can be raised in winter. Mortice and set in between the crosspieces, which



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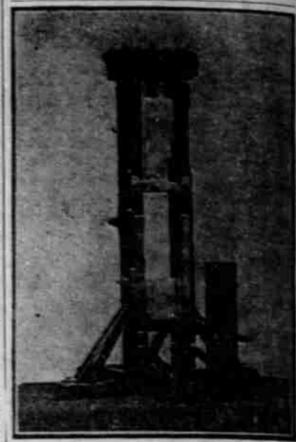
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Orchard Suggestions.

As a rule apples from orchards that are in sod culture are better and more highly colored than those from tilled orchards, but this is not necessarily so. The peach requires good culture, but this culture should not be continued too late in the season or the wood will not harden by the time winter sets in and the tree will be injured.

AGAIN THE GUILLOTINE.

France has resumed the public beheading of criminals. After keeping the guillotine locked up out of sight for three years because President Fallieres opposed capital punishment and preferred to pardon persons condemned to death, France has again brought the dreaded machine into use and has resumed the public beheading of criminals. Parisians have thronged the places of execution and have shown such a disposition to make a merry spectacle of the death of a criminal that the feeling is growing that the authorities will soon decide that it is better to limit the



THE GUILLOTINE.

number of spectators or make the executions altogether private.

A man named Danvers was the last victim. He was executed for the cold-blooded murder of a farmer and his wife, who had befriended him. The scenes were extraordinary. Men and women masked and in fancy dress paraded the streets, halting in front of the jail where the condemned man was lying, ignorant of his impending death, to sing comic songs with uproarious choruses. M. Delber, the executioner, was the object of frenzied ovations whenever he left the privacy of his hotel, and the cafes, restaurants and hotels were all packed. On the night before the execution no one seemed to go to bed, but remained on the streets awaiting the execution, and once the crowd of masqueraders mockingly sang "De Profundis" right under Danvers' cell.

QUEER STORIES

New York City has 200 women's clubs.

The United States consumes 80,000,000 pounds of tea annually.

The world's demand of rubber amounts to 125,000,000 pounds annually.

The death record of the railroads in New South Wales is one in seven years.

The water of the tropical oceans contain more salt than that in other latitudes.

Less than 1 per cent of the pulk has occasion to make use of the world's cables.

In spite of the political workers Mrs. Harriet Paul has been appointed clerk of the committee on corporations and railroads in the Colorado Assembly. The only objection offered by the political workers to her was that the office represented part of the spoils and should by rights go to a man.

There are 85,840 trees in Paris, and each tree has lot number, age, history and condition recorded in the books at the Hotel de Ville. The appropriation for this department is 450,000 francs a year. The work could not be done for any such sum had it not been so thoroughly done in the beginning in the reign of Napoleon III.—Technical World Magazine.

A contributor has had the curiosity to look up J. B. Reid's "Burns Concordance" and measure the amount of space devoted to certain words. In the result he found that Burns uses the word "heart" more than any other, the quotations under this word filling no fewer than six of the closely printed columns. "Lass," "friend" and "heaven" come next, each having about two columns.—Glasgow News.

"Stalwart," originally applied by Mr. Blaine in 1877 to Republicans who stuck to the "bloody shirt," was later appropriated to the Republicans who were in favor of the nomination of General Grant in 1880, and to Mr. Conkling's friends in New York as against Mr. Blaine's and General Garfield's, who were called "half-breeds." "Mugwump" in its political sense designated the Republicans who refused to vote for Mr. Blaine in 1884.

Yes, we outgrow things—tops, little pink or blue dresses, friendships, loves, and ideals, and it is well that we do, says a writer in Home Notes. We may occasionally regret some one of them; but if they were always ours how monotonous life would be—it hardly would be worth the living, you know.

Increasing Her Importance. "I see that Sweden has adopted a universal suffrage law."

"Gee! I hope our Swedish cook won't hear of it!"—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

You may not hope to be unprejudiced. The next best chance then is to have creditable prejudices.